

CROWLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

At the ordinary monthly meeting of the above Council, held on Monday last, the Medical Officer's annual report was read and approved; and was as follows:—
The Urban Sanitary Authority of Crowle.

Gentlemen,—I now beg to submit to you my annual report of the sanitary condition of the Crowle Urban Sanitary District, for the year ending December 31st, 1895; together with tables of sickness and mortality, as required by the Local Government Board.

Population—I estimate at the same figures as last, viz, 3,250—Crowle, 2,800; and Eastoft, 450.

Vital Statistics.—During the year there were 113 births registered—56 males and 57 females. This exceeds last year's births by one. This is equal to a birth rate of 34·7 per 1000. Of this number, 3 were illegitimate, equal to 1 in 37·6 of all the births. This compares favourably with the two previous years, when in 1893 it equalled 1 in 16·1, and last year 1 in 28 births.

Mortality.—The deaths registered during the year were 57—26 males and 31 females; but we have to add two who died in Thorne Hospital, making the total mortality 59. This is equal to a death rate of 18·1 per 1000 of the whole population. Last year it was 16·3 per 1000. The prolonged and severe winter we had may have had something to do with the slightly increased mortality rate.

In Eastoft there were 4 deaths—equal to a death rate of 8·8 per 1000. This is exactly same as last year.

Infant Mortality.—20 children died under 1 year of age. This gives a death rate of 338·9 per 1000 deaths.

28·8 per cent of the deaths occurred to persons over 60 years of age.

The youngest death registered was 7 hours, due to premature birth.

7 died between 70 and 80 years of age; and 2 lived to 80 and upwards; the oldest dying aged 93.

Zymotic Deaths.—6 deaths were registered as due to zymotic disease, viz:—diarrhoea 5, puerperal fever 1. 3 cases of fatal diarrhoea were in children, aged from 2 to 11 months. As I have said before, improper feeding is a frequent cause of illness amongst children under 1 year, and especially in hand-fed children. The other cases of fatal diarrhoea were at the other extreme of life—one aged 85 years and the other 93 years.

During the early months of the year, there were several cases of Pemphigus, a rare kind of skin disease. It was confined to young children. It caused the death of one who was only 15 days old. It is not a contagious disease.

Infectious Diseases.—The cases of infectious disease that came under my notice were four cases of scarletina. Three of these cases occurred at the Board School; but as energetic measures were not once carried out, the contagion was prevented from spreading. Each house was visited, and instructions given for isolation and disinfection. This shows how very important it is for early information of every case of infectious disease occurring in the district to be given to the Sanitary Authority or their officers, so that isolation and disinfection be at once carried out.

No case of typhoid or enteric fever came under notice during the year; in fact, the last year has been singularly free from zymotic disease.

There were three inquests held during the year—one at Eastoft on a child 9 months old. Suffocation was the cause of death. The other two were held at Crowle—one from alcoholic poisoning and the other accidental.

Lung diseases, including pulmonary consumption, pneumonia, and bronchitis, caused 9 deaths. This is about 16 per cent of the whole mortality. This rate compares favourably with 1894, when about 30 per cent of all the deaths was caused by lung disease.

Slaughter Houses—Have been inspected, and were always found in a clean and good sanitary condition.

Sewerage.—The sewage is run into ditches, which are regularly cleaned out.

Removal of Excreta.—This has been done in an efficient manner.

Systematic inspection of the district has been made, by me, along with your Inspector, and any insanitary condition noticed was attended to.

Sanitary Work.—From a statement furnished me by your Inspector, I find that the following sanitary work has been done:—In Godnow Road 50 yards of 15 inch pipes were laid; at Emerson's corner, 90 yards of 6 inch pipe. Mrs Sayles's dyke, 160 yards of 12-inch piping. On Common-side, 90 yards of 6 inch pipe; and at the Slack 170 yards of 6 inch pipe were laid—making in all 560 yards of new piping. In addition to this, there have been several new closets and ash-pits built; though there are several of the old ash-pits still uncovered.

The drain which runs by the side of the gardens on Field-side should, in my opinion, be laid with sanitary pipes and covered in, as there are two slaughter houses which drain into it, along with other matters. This renders the vicinity, especially in the hot weather, very unpleasant and unhealthy. Also, the drain under the road at Mrs Quickfall's requires attending to.

Gentlemen,
I remain, your obedient servant,
ARCH. A. HAMILTON

1870
No. 1000
The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the membership of the Society since the last meeting of the Executive Committee.

Mr. J. H. Miller

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